

# HOUSE BILL 758

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By: **Delegates Mitchell, Alston, Barve, Branch, Clippinger, Cullison, Frick, Haynes, A. Kelly, A. Miller, Oaks, Rosenberg, Stukes, Summers, F. Turner, Valentino-Smith, Walker, and Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2011

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Green Technology, Life Science, and Health Information Technology Loan**  
3 **Assistance Repayment Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Green Technology, Life Science, and Health  
5 Information Technology Loan Assistance Repayment Program; requiring the  
6 Office of Student Financial Assistance to assist in the repayment of any federal  
7 or State higher education loan owed by a resident of the State who meets  
8 certain requirements; specifying that certain loan assistance may only be used  
9 to repay certain higher education loans; specifying the amount of assistance  
10 that may be awarded; specifying that an individual awarded assistance may  
11 only receive assistance for a certain number of years; specifying that the  
12 assistance awarded to an individual, when combined with certain other  
13 assistance, may not exceed a certain amount; requiring the Office to adopt  
14 certain regulations; requiring that funds for the Program be provided on an  
15 annual basis in the State budget; requiring the Office to submit a certain report  
16 on or before a certain date each year to the Governor and certain committees of  
17 the General Assembly; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the  
18 Green Technology, Life Science, and Health Information Technology Loan  
19 Assistance Repayment Program.

20 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
21 Article – Education  
22 Section 18–101(c)  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

25 BY adding to  
26 Article – Education

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 18–2901 through 18–2906 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 29.  
2 Green Technology, Life Science, and Health Information Technology Loan  
3 Assistance Repayment Program”  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
7 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article – Education**

9 18–101.

10 (c) “Office” means the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

11 **SUBTITLE 29. GREEN TECHNOLOGY, LIFE SCIENCE, AND HEALTH**  
12 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**

13 **18–2901.**

14 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
15 INDICATED.

16 (B) “GREEN TECHNOLOGY” MEANS TECHNOLOGY THAT:

17 (1) PROMOTES CLEAN ENERGY, RENEWABLE ENERGY, OR  
18 ENERGY EFFICIENCY;

19 (2) REDUCES GREENHOUSE GASES OR CARBON EMISSIONS; OR

20 (3) INVOLVES THE INVENTION, DESIGN, AND APPLICATION OF  
21 CHEMICAL PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES TO ELIMINATE THE USE AND  
22 GENERATION OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.

23 (C) “HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY” MEANS THE CREATION,  
24 EXECUTION, OR IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC DATA SYSTEMS THAT  
25 RECORD OR TRANSMIT MEDICAL OR HEALTH INFORMATION.

26 (D) “LIFE SCIENCE” MEANS THE STUDY OF GENES, CELLS, TISSUES, AND  
27 CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL STRUCTURES OF LIVING ORGANISMS.

28 (E) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE GREEN TECHNOLOGY, LIFE SCIENCE, AND  
29 HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT  
30 PROGRAM.

1 **18-2902.**

2 (A) **THERE IS A GREEN TECHNOLOGY, LIFE SCIENCE, AND HEALTH**  
3 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOAN ASSISTANCE REPAYMENT PROGRAM.**

4 (B) **THE OFFICE SHALL ASSIST IN THE REPAYMENT OF ANY FEDERAL**  
5 **OR STATE HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN OWED BY A RESIDENT OF THE STATE:**

6 (1) (I) **WHO, ON OR AFTER MAY 1, 2010, RECEIVED A**  
7 **BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN A FIELD RELATING TO**  
8 **GREEN TECHNOLOGY, LIFE SCIENCE, OR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
9 **FROM A SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE STATE;**

10 (II) **WHO HAS BEEN EMPLOYED IN THE STATE IN A JOB**  
11 **RELATING TO GREEN TECHNOLOGY, LIFE SCIENCE, OR HEALTH INFORMATION**  
12 **TECHNOLOGY FOR AT LEAST 2 YEARS AFTER GRADUATION; AND**

13 (III) **WHOSE EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION, AS**  
14 **DETERMINED BY THE FEDERAL FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT**  
15 **AID FOR THE MOST RECENT FULL ACADEMIC YEAR DOES NOT EXCEED \$35,000;**  
16 **OR**

17 (2) (I) **WHO GRADUATED FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL BEFORE**  
18 **JULY 1, 2008;**

19 (II) **WHO IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD;**

20 (III) **WHO RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE RELATING TO GREEN**  
21 **TECHNOLOGY, LIFE SCIENCE, OR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FROM**  
22 **AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM A SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE**  
23 **STATE;**

24 (IV) 1. **WHO IS UNEMPLOYED;**

25 2. **WHO HAS RECEIVED NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF**  
26 **EMPLOYMENT; OR**

27 3. **WHO IS EMPLOYED WITH A GROSS ANNUAL**  
28 **FAMILY INCOME OF LESS THAN \$40,000; AND**

29 (V) **WHO WAS NOT ENROLLED AS A FULL-TIME STUDENT AT**  
30 **AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION BEFORE JULY 1, 2010.**

31 **18-2903.**

1           **(A) ASSISTANCE RECEIVED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY ONLY BE USED**  
2 **TO REPAY FEDERAL OR STATE HIGHER EDUCATION LOANS.**

3           **(B) (1) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, AN**  
4 **INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM UNDER § 18-2902(B)(1) OF**  
5 **THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE AWARDED YEARLY ASSISTANCE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO**  
6 **EXCEED \$2,500 OR 5% OF THE AMOUNT OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S FEDERAL OR**  
7 **STATE EDUCATIONAL LOANS, WHICHEVER IS LESS.**

8           **(2) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVES ASSISTANCE UNDER**  
9 **PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY BE AWARDED ASSISTANCE:**

10                   **(I) FOR NO MORE THAN 4 YEARS IF THE INDIVIDUAL**  
11 **RECEIVED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE; OR**

12                   **(II) FOR NO MORE THAN 2 YEARS IF THE INDIVIDUAL**  
13 **RECEIVED AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE.**

14           **(C) THE ASSISTANCE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS AWARDED UNDER**  
15 **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, WHEN COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER STATE**  
16 **LOAN ASSISTANCE, MAY NOT EXCEED:**

17                   **(1) \$10,000 FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVED A BACHELOR'S**  
18 **DEGREE; OR**

19                   **(2) \$5,000 FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVED AN ASSOCIATE'S**  
20 **DEGREE.**

21           **(D) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM UNDER §**  
22 **18-2902(B)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE AWARDED ASSISTANCE IN THE**  
23 **AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE COST OF EARNING THE CERTIFICATE BUT NO MORE**  
24 **THAN \$250.**

25 **18-2904.**

26           **THE OFFICE SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.**

27 **18-2905.**

28           **FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE PROVIDED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS IN**  
29 **THE STATE BUDGET.**

30 **18-2906.**

1           **ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE OFFICE SHALL REPORT**  
2 **TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE**  
3 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND**  
4 **ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS**  
5 **AND MEANS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM.**

6           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2011.